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AP English Literature & Composition

Composition: Explication

11 December 2009

**SKILLS PAGE**

**5.7 Unnecessary Commas**

MY SENTENCE: Throughout the second stanza, the speaker seems to be more **sincere, because** he now admits to what he really wants, and uses words such as “time’s wingèd chariot hurrying near,” “all before us lie,” “vast eternity,” “no more be found,” “dust,” and “ashes,” in lines twenty-one to thirty-two to create a negative, urgent tone.

EXPLANATION: Do not use unnecessary commas. Use a comma before a coordinating conjunction (*and, but, for, nor, or, so,* or *yet*) when it joins independent clauses, otherwise do not use a comma. I got my information from *Holt Handbook* on page 348.

REVISED EXAMPLE: Throughout the second stanza, the speaker seems to be more **sincere because** he now admits to what he really wants, and uses words such as “time’s wingèd chariot hurrying near,” “all before us lie,” “vast eternity,” “no more be found,” “dust,” and “ashes,” in lines twenty-one to thirty-two to create a negative, urgent tone.

ORIGINAL EXAMPLE: My dad and I went for a walk and stopped for some food on the way home.